المجلس الاسلامي
Islamic Council

PRESS RELEASE
23 January 1995

MORE ARRESTS IN EGYPT

In a statement issued today, the Islamic Council drew attention to the continuing and widening repressive policies of the Egyptian regime with the arrest over this past weekend of prominent members of the Muslim Brotherhood.

The Council said that the Muslim Brotherhood was known for its condemnation of all violence and that the true reason for these arrests was that the Egyptian regime had no respect for anyone's right to the freedom of expression and could tolerate no criticism of the current situation in Egypt, or talk of the widespread and blatant corruption which dominates the government. The Council stated that once again the Egyptian authorities had demonstrated that any claim they made to democracy was a sham.

The Council urged international human rights organisations to pressurise the Egyptian regime for the release of the thousands now being held without trial in Egypt's prisons or for their cases to come to trial swiftly before civilian courts in accordance with international standards of justice, and not before military courts where the verdicts were pre-judged.

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